

Welcome to Brierley Forest Primary & Nursery School

Reception New Starter Meeting
September 2026



Welcome to our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



Staff at Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School

Senior Leadership Team

Mrs Griffith
Headteacher

Mrs Wallis
Deputy
Headteacher

Mrs Smedley
Assistant
Headteacher/
SENDCo

EYFS staff

Miss Hale
(Mrs Jones from September)
EYFS Lead and class
teacher

Mrs Copley
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Lloyd
Teaching Assistant

Mr Day
Teaching Assistant

Class names

Our Reception children are the Butterflies.



Times for September - Reception:



- ✧ The **Reception (F2) school day** will be:
 - ✧ 8.45am - 3.15pm.
- ✧ At Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School we aim to give the children the best possible start to their education and therefore ask you to be on time for every session.
- ✧ The door is opened at 8.40am and will shut at 8.45am, if you are later than this, you will need to go to the main school office. Your child will receive a late mark.

Daily routines

- * Each morning, children will be met at the EYFS door by their class teacher from 8.40am where they will make their own way into their classrooms.
- * This has worked well in supporting children's independence.
- * Of course, if your child needs you to come into the classroom to begin with we will support this.



During the session

- Life in Reception is busy, productive and fun.
- Throughout the day children will take part in many different activities.
- These include:
 - Carpet sessions – Phonics, Maths, Literacy/ Themed Learning and Stories
 - Children access adult-led activities based around their learning.
 - Children can choose their own activities as part of our continuous provision.
- We also have a free-flow environment which allows children to access both indoors and outdoors throughout the session.



Lunchtime:

- ✳ All Reception children can be provided with a free school meal. These meals are cooked on site by Aspens.
- ✳ These meals are booked at home through Arbor and need to be booked before midday the previous day.
- ✳ Children have 4 options: A meal, a vegetarian meal, pasta or jacket potato.
- ✳ If your child prefers, they can bring a packed lunch.
- ✳ **If your child has special dietary requirements, please let staff know and complete the relevant paperwork.**

Dinners
are
yummy!

I like pasta
the best!

FOOD FESTIVAL LUNCHTIME					
Available Weekdays 8.30am-1.30pm APR, MAY, JUN, SEPT, OCT, NOV, DEC, APRIL, MAY, SEPT					
MAIN EVENT	RAINBOW MAC & CHEESE	RAINBOW ALLEY	RAINBOW BIG TOPPING	DESERT TROLLEY	TRADITIONAL
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza Slice and Wedges	Vegetarian Pasta Slice with Wedges	Sweetcorn	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mays	Butterbean Bolognese
TUESDAY	BBQ Cherry Chicken	Butterbean Bolognese	Apple Slice and Wholesome Bites	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mays	Sweet Potato Bolognese
WEDNESDAY	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Quorn Sausages, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Pine and Carrots	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mays	Forest Fruits Jelly Pops
THURSDAY	Lasagne	Vegetarian Lasagne	Green Beans	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mays	Double Dough Apple Cinnamon
FRIDAY	Golden Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers and Chips	Vegetarian Burger and Chips	Roast Beans	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mays	Jimmy Thompson's Biscuits



End of session routines

- ✧ At the end of the day (3.15pm) families will make their way to the door.
- ✧ Please let us know in advance if it will be someone different collecting your child. Children must be collected by someone over the age of 16 and who are known to staff. If it is somebody different collecting your child, we will ask them for the password which you chose when your child started Reception.



School uniform

- * Grey/Black skirt, dress, shorts or trousers
- * Blue and white checked summer dress
- * White/Blue polo shirt (with or without a logo)
- * Royal blue jumper or cardigan (with or without the logo)
- * Black school shoes
- * Black/white/grey socks or tights



School uniform with the Brierley Forest logo can be purchased from Sabre Sports, Outram Street, Sutton in Ashfield or via their website:

<https://www.sabresportsproducts.co.uk/product-category/school-wear/our-schools/brierley-forest/>

P.E. kit

- ✧ Black/navy blue shorts/jogging bottoms – no logos.
- ✧ White or blue t-shirt (separate to the school shirt)
- ✧ Black/navy blue jacket or normal school jumper.
- ✧ Slip on or Velcro plimsols/trainers

Our PE Day will be confirmed in September.



What to bring to School?

✧ A labelled water bottle



✧ Weather appropriate clothes

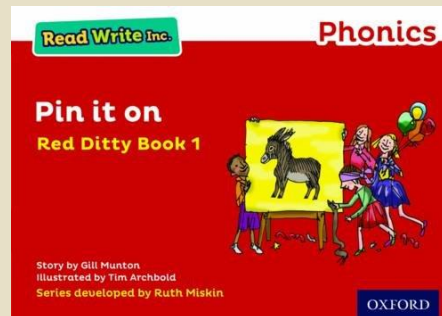


✧ Try to avoid bringing in any of the children's own toys.



What will we provide?

- ✧ Reading for pleasure book.
- ✧ Phonics book and a pack for you to read at home each week.
- ✧ This should be bought to school daily.
- ✧ If this is lost, there may be a fine for parents.



What will we provide?

- *A login will also be given to the website 'Learning with Parents'. This will give you access to the online reading journal where you can log what you have read with your child.



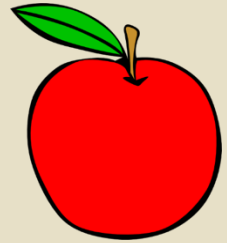
Reading session

- * Every week we have a reading day where families are invited into the classroom to read with their child from:
 - 8.45-9.00
- * This is also the day where you can swap your child's book.
- * This day will be confirmed in September.



Drink and snacks

- ✳ In Reception children are offered a piece of fruit each day as part of the national Fruit Scheme.
- ✳ They also get a free bagel every morning for breakfast when they come into school!
- ✳ Your child will also be entitled to free milk until they are 5 years old – to ensure your child gets this please sign up through the cool milk website. If you would like them to continue receiving it after they turn 5, you will order this directly from coolmilk.
- ✳ <https://www.coolmilk.com/>
- ✳ The children can access their fruit and milk (or water) whenever they feel hungry/thirsty at our self-service snack area; we encourage them to help themselves throughout the session.



Labels

- ✧ To help the class teachers we do ask that **all** clothing, bags, lunch boxes and water bottles are **clearly labelled with your child's name.**
- ✧ This will help us to return your child's uniform to them should it get misplaced.



What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

- ✧ The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception Year.
- ✧ It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.



Learning through play

- ✧ Play is an important part of the daily routine in the foundation stage.
- ✧ It is planned for by the early years team and is aimed at developing the children's ability to explore creatively.
- ✧ The play that the children engage in helps to enhance the children's learning as they are continually learning through a wide variety of activities.



Our curriculum

Our curriculum is designed across the whole school. It will provide firsthand learning experiences, whilst allowing the children to build resilience, ambition and integrity.

Every child is valued as a unique individual and we celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills and knowledge.

Our curriculum is based upon weekly themes, high quality texts and the children's interests.

We provide enrichment opportunities to engage learning and believe that experiences of school should be happy and positive, enabling us to develop a lifelong love of learning.

Enrichment and experiential learning is a huge part of our curriculum. We take parts in lots of activities both in and out of school which furthers our learning and helps us to learn about ours and other's communities.



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In the foundation stage, there are 7 areas learning, which we cover throughout the year.

There are 3 Prime Areas:

- ✧ Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- ✧ Communication and Language
- ✧ Physical Development

✧ There are 4 Specific Areas:

- ✧ Literacy
- ✧ Numeracy
- ✧ Understanding the World
- ✧ Expressive Arts and Design



Communication and Language

- ✧ There is a huge focus on this prime area in the new curriculum, as it underpins every area of learning!
- ✧ The children will be learning:
 - ✧ **Listening, Attention and Understanding** – Listen attentively, hold conversation's and make comments about what they have heard.
 - ✧ **Speaking**- Participating in class discussions, offering explanations and expressing their ideas using full sentences.



Personal, Social and Emotional development

- ✧ The children will be learning:
- ✧ **Self regulation** – Showing an understanding towards their feelings and others, working towards goals and giving focused attention.
- ✧ **Managing self-** Showing confidence, resilience, understanding right and wrong and managing basic hygiene needs.
- ✧ **Building relationships** – Working collaboratively, forming positive relationships, showing sensitivity towards others



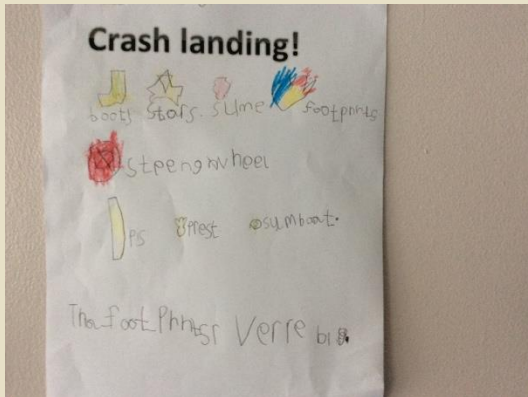
Physical Development

- ✧ The children will be learning:
- ✧ **Gross motor skills** – Negotiating space, demonstrating strength and moving energetically in a range of ways.
- ✧ **Fine motor skills** – Using small tools, showing accuracy when drawing and holding a pencil effectively for early writing.



Literacy:

- ✧ The children will be learning:
- ✧ **Comprehension** – Demonstrating an understanding of what they have read, use vocabulary introduced through stories/poems/non-fiction and anticipate key events.
- ✧ **Word reading** – Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet, will learn phase 3 digraphs, be able to read words using phonetic skills and read aloud simple sentences and tricky words.
- ✧ **Writing** – Write recognisable letters which are correctly formed, spells simple words and write sentences that can be read by others.



Phonics



- We follow the RWI phonics programme to teach our children to read and write.
- There will be a meeting to talk to you all about this during your child's first term in Reception.



Mathematics:

- ✧ The children will be learning:
- ✧ **Number** – Have a deep understanding of numbers to 10 (including the composition of those numbers), Subitise to 5 and to automatically recall number bonds to 10.
- ✧ **Numerical patterns** – Verbally count beyond 20, compare quantities of number and will explore and represent patterns within numbers to 10 (including odd and even exploration, doubling facts and sharing amounts)



Understanding the world:

- ✧ The children will be learning:
- ✧ **Past and Present** – Talk about the lives of people around them and their roles, understanding similarities and differences between the past and present and to develop an understanding of the past through the use of stories and non-fiction texts.
- ✧ **People, Culture and Communities** – Describe their immediate environment, know similarities and differences between different religions and communities and to learn about differences between life in this country and others.
- ✧ **The Natural World** – Explore the world around them, understand important processes (seasons) and explore different environments.



Expressive arts and design:

- *The children will be learning:
- ***Creating with materials** – Safely use different materials and tools, share their creations and make use of props and materials when role playing.
- ***Being imaginative and expressive** - Invent, adapt and recount narratives, sing well known songs and nursery rhymes and perform songs/stories/poems with others and in time with music.



Reception Baseline

What is the RBA?

- The Reception Baseline Assessment is a short, fun, and practical activity that all children in England complete during their first 6 weeks of starting Reception.
- It is carried out one-to-one with a teacher in a quiet, comfortable setting.

Why do we do it?

- It gives us a snapshot of your child's starting point in maths, language, and communication.
- It helps us plan how best to support and challenge your child in their learning.
- The results are used by the government to track school progress over time – not to judge or label your child.

What does it look like for your child?

- It feels like a game or a chat – picture matching, counting, listening to stories, and responding to simple questions.
- Most children really enjoy the time – it's low-pressure and very child-friendly.

Will I get the results?

- You won't receive a score or result because it's not a test. It's simply to help us support your child.
- We will keep you informed of your child's progress throughout the year through parent meetings and regular communication.

We brush our teeth at school!

- We work with the Health service and clean our teeth at school daily.
- All brushes are cleaned daily, and staff are trained and Quality Assured regularly.



School Expectations

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

School Vision and Values

Learn and Grow Together

AT BFPNS, we create a caring family of resilient learners, enabling all individuals to thrive in our community.

Belonging Caring Resilience Integrity

School Expectations – Attendance

If your child is too ill to attend school or is absent for any other reason, please contact the school on the first day of absence as soon as possible.



Forest Schools

- As part of our Reception year through the year, some children will be offered Forest School sessions.
- Our children love this and is a time to explore our natural environment.



Enrichment

ROCKSTEADY

- As part of our Reception year, we have offered some of children an opportunity to play an instrument within a band.
- This is something we hope to continue to be able to offer.



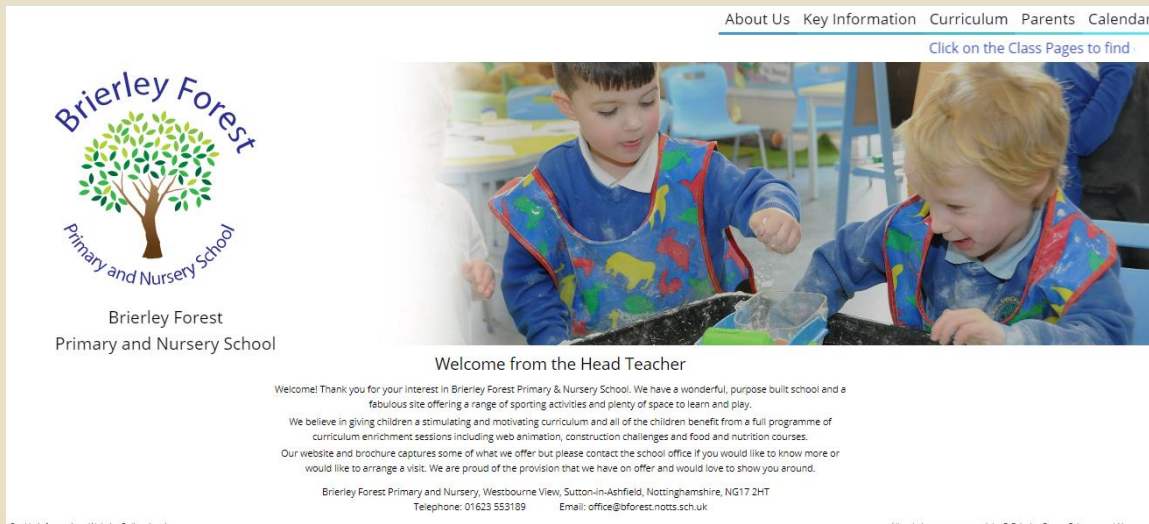
Parent Partnership

- * We always endeavour to strengthen our communication between school and home.
- * We welcome parents to come and talk to us at any time and we strive to keep you updated on your children's learning.
- * We hold parents open sessions in the Autumn and Spring terms for you to come in and join in with your child's learning.
- * This is then followed in the Summer term by an end of year report.



Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School Website

- ✧ Our school website is kept up to date and is the home to all important information.
- ✧ As part of this we will from time to time put on photographs of the children working.



<https://www.brierleyforestprimary.co.uk/>

Class Dojo

- ✧ We use class dojo in each of the classes.
- ✧ This is a place where teachers share information and pictures about what the children are getting up to at school. Both in individual classrooms and as a whole school.
- ✧ You will see the dojos children receive in school.
- ✧ You will also be able to directly message your child's class teacher.
- ✧ You will also be welcome to share some of the amazing things which your children are getting up to at home in their own portfolio.



ClassDojo

Class Dojo

Each morning and afternoon children get the opportunity to earn a dojo for following our school expectations.

If children get their 10 dojos by the end of the week, they will then receive a reward time.



Transition into Reception

- As part of the transition into Reception children will be offered transition sessions. These will offer the children a chance to explore their new environment and meet the staff who will be working with.

Our whole school transition days are:

Tuesday 14th July 2026 from **9.15am-3.15pm**

Wednesday 15th July 2026 from **8.45am-3.15pm.**

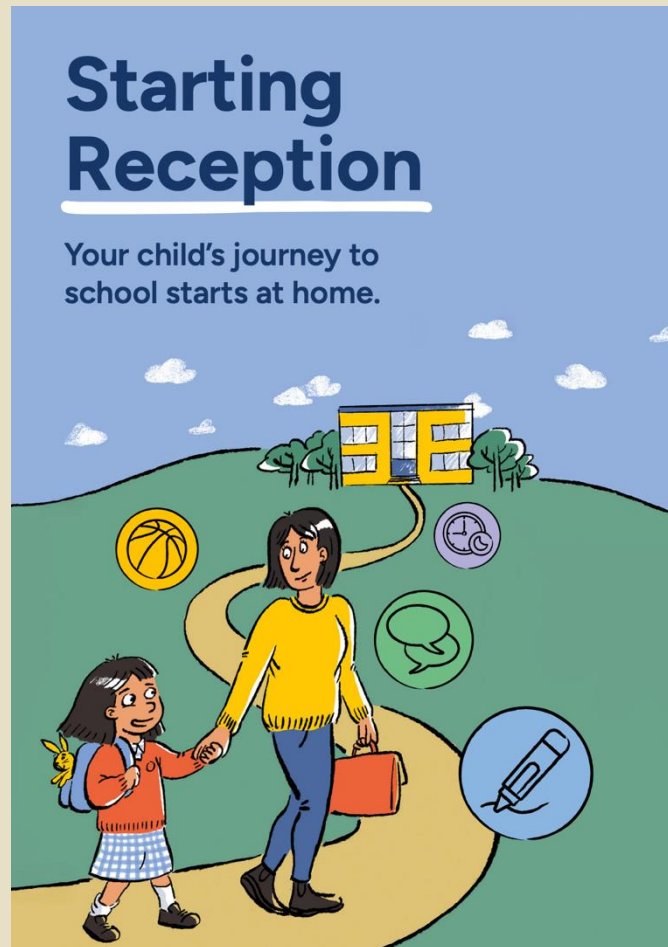
For children who currently attend our nursery they can come for normal session time of 8.45am on the first day.

Your child's first official day with us will be

Thursday 3rd September 2026.

- In September we have found that if children start for the full day straight away it takes them a lot less time to settle.
- If your child does not settle straight away, we can discuss building the time up they spend in Reception and an extended transition period.

What can you do to get your child ready for school:





What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage: *a guide for parents*

Steps to starting school

Build your child's confidence so that they start school confident, curious and ready to learn

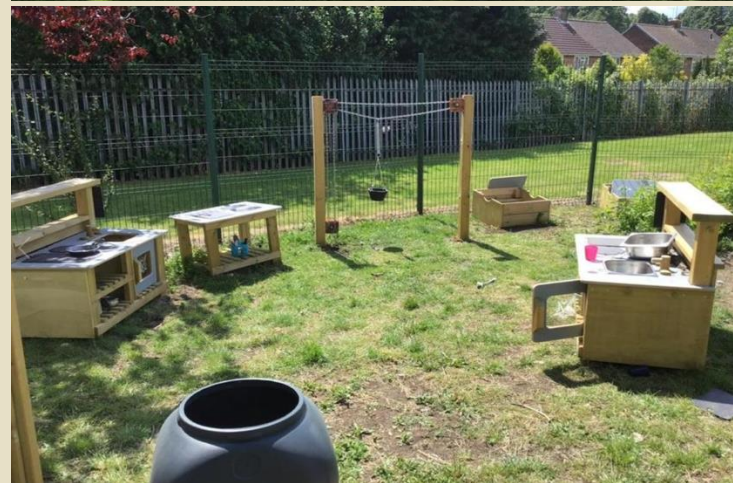
Access more great advice, tips and downloadable resources at
pacey.org.uk/schoolready



More top tips:

- ★ Get your child ready for their new routine by switching their meal times to match those of the school day
- ★ Encourage your child to explore new environments and interact with new people
- ★ Talk to your child about what they are most looking forward to at school
- ★ Let your child practise putting their new school uniform on and taking it off
- ★ **And remember**, every child is different and starts school with different abilities

We are very lucky to have a brand new EYFS building both inside and outside.



Any Questions?

Please feel free to contact the school
office on 01623 553189 or
bforesteyfs@bforest.notts.sch.uk

